

(CIRCULAR NO. 8.)

Surgeon General's Office,

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., June 22, 1863.

I. It is provided, by act of Congress, that soldiers discharged from the Army of the United States *within two years* from the date of their enlistment *by reason of wounds received in battle*, shall be entitled to receive the same bounty as is granted to those discharged *after two years' service*.

Medical Officers are accordingly directed, in making out the papers of soldiers discharged under such circumstances, to endorse upon both the Final Statements and the Discharge the fact that the disability is by reason of wounds received in battle, and to sign such endorsement with their official signature.

II. Hereafter in giving Discharges to officers and soldiers on account of disability, their discharge papers must always state whether, at the time of discharge, the officer or soldier was or was not physically suitable to enter or re-enlist in the Invalid Corps.

III. From and after the 30th instant, the envelopes of all official communications addressed to the heads of bureaux of the War Department having the franking privilege, must be marked "Official," with the signature thereto of the officer writing the communication. Postage stamps are not required on such communications.

W. A. HAMMOND,

Surgeon General.

